Thanks, PAT WATKINS, for the Rug for the Nursery,!

Thursday, June 27
7:00 PM
Cabaret Rehearsal
Program Committee

Saturday, June 29
PRAIRIE CABARET
Piano Fund Raiser (See Story)

Sunday, June 30
10:00 AM
"Northern Ireland" - Andrew Somers
3:00 PM to ...
Briggs's 40th Anniversary Party
(See Story)

Sunday, July 7
10:00 AM
No service at Prairie
1:30 PM
Picnic Potluck - Shirley Grindrod's

Monday, July 8
7:30 PM
Board Meeting

Friday, July 12 - Saturday, July 13
Garage Sale
At Pat Watkins home
230 N. Meadow Lane
233-5795 or 238-6053

Sunday, July 14
10:00 AM
"Contra Dancing" -
Mike and Norma Briggs

Saturday, July 20
8:30 PM
Charley's Aunt
University Theatre (See Story)

Sunday, July 21
10:00 AM
"Fictional Characters" - Fran Zell

Sunday, July 28
10:00 AM
"Unitarians in Romania Today" -
Fekete Bela and Ruth Gibson

Thursday, August 8
7:30 PM
Long Range Planning Committee

Summer Garage Sales
A series of Prairie fundraising garage sales will start with the first one on July 12-13 at the home of Pat Watkins, 230 N. Meadow Lane, near Hilldale Mall. We need your donations of used, but good condition, furniture, household items, toys, and children's clothing.
Please bring your garage sale items to Pat's home Thursday evening, 7/11, from 5 to 8 PM. Contact Pat (233-5795) to drop off items during the preceding week, or Aileen Nettleton (238-6053) for pick-up.
If you can volunteer to help out for several hours either day, please call Aileen. Help Prairie while you help recycle!

...As the prairie stretches out until it becomes one with the sky, let us reach out to touch
and be one with the natural world and with one another. PRAIRIE'S BOND OF UNION
Rick Owens & the Tin Man

Our own Housing & Property chair, Rick Owens, will be appearing as the Tin Man in Verona Community Theater’s production of “The Wizard of Oz”. Friday June 21 to Sunday June 23. Call 845-3884 for details.

Saturday Night Salad Bar at the MOVIES

Join once a month for a lively evening with friends, food, and a good movie. The next Salad Bar Movie will be at the home of Pat Cautley, 4805 Regent St., Madison, on Saturday, June 22. Join us at 6:30 PM and bring a salad to add to the salad bar. Bread and beverages will be provided.

Please call for the title of the movie and to sign up.

Movie will start about 7:00 PM with discussion to follow.

Call Pat Cautley at 238-5373.

Come to the Cabaret!

Saturday, June 29 — What do Le Chat Noir, Überbrettl and Die Insulancer have in common? They were famous cabarets. Their colorful history began in late 19th century France and lasted through post-war Germany.

The term “cabaret,” a cognate of “chamber,” refers to both the place and style of entertainment. Early French cabaret chansons had political and sociological overtones. In the 1920s the Überbrettl cabaret in Munich attracted famous artists including Berthold Brecht. By then the style of political, social, and sexy commentary was well established.

Squelched during the Nazi era, the cabaret reemerged after WWII. Berlin’s cabaret Die Insulancer took on issues of postwar Germany. Pointed social satire got applause at Dje Stachelscweine (The Porcupines).

On Saturday, June 29, Prairie entertainers will carry on the cabaret tradition. Torch singers, satirists, jokers and performers who have other styles of nightclub-type music to share, please call Barb Park, Reid Miller, or Doleta Chapru.

Everyone bring fat wallets for your snacks and entertainment. Proceeds are for the piano.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

June 23 - Welfare Deform

Barbara Herrick, the director of Community Coordinated Child Care (4-C) will discuss what she prefers to call “Welfare Deform”. She has been an active lobbyist against Gov. Thompson’s W-2 welfare reform plans. She will tell us what is currently happening in our area, what the ramifications are, and why it won’t work.

June 30 - Northern Ireland

As a retired municipal judge, Andy Somers has traveled frequently to Ireland and England. He has witnessed and reported on trials of alleged IRA youth, anti-Irish violence (by British soldiers & Ulster police), & prison conditions. He will talk about human rights violations, the current peace process, & some of the reasons for the whole mess in Northern Ireland.

July 7 - 1:30 PM Picnic Potluck

Shirley Grindrod will be hosting this family get-together at her home, 5235 Harbor Ct. Turn toward the lake off of University at Spring Harbor Drive (between North Witney and Capital.) Her home is by Lake Mendota, at the corner of Harbor Ct. and Lake Mendota Drive. Come in the afternoon and stay as long as you like.

July 14 - Contra Dancing

Mike and Norma Briggs will be doing their traditional Contra Dancing program. Please come and share in the good times.

July 21 - Fictional Characters

Where do fictional characters come from? Award winning writer Fran Zell will tell us about the inspirations for her characters. Fran moved here from Chicago four years ago.

July 28 - Unitarians in Romania

Fekete Bela, from First Society’s Partner Church in Romania, will be visiting Madison. He and Ruth Gibson will talk about Unitarianism in Transylvania.

Briggs’s 40th Anniversary!

Everyone is invited to the Briggs’s home, 2404 Fox Ave. for a potluck on Sunday, June 30. Arrive at 3 PM, eat at 5 PM, music and dancing later. (No gifts, please. If you wish, you may make a contribution toward a songbook for Prairie.)

Prairie Playreaders

I would like to invite all Prairie Playreaders to join me in attending the University Theatre’s production of the comedy Charley’s Aunt (by Brandon Thomas) Saturday, July 20 at 8:30 PM. They will be holding the play in their cabaret setting. Tickets can be purchased by calling the University Theatre Box Office (262-1500). People interested in attending the play for dessert, etc., or for going out to eat before the production, should leave a message for Susan Hagstrom at 238-4970 indicating their interest in one or the other.

Help Wanted — Channing Murray

A quarter-time Young Adult Group Coordinator (one-year position) is needed to coordinate a group of 18 to 35 year old Unitarian Universalists. Responsibilities include organizing weekly meetings, location, monthly dinners, and recruitment. Understanding of Unitarian ideals is a must. Good organizational and people skills are required. Please send resume and cover letter to: Channing Murray, c/o Chris Liu, 2564 Branch St. #7, Middleton WI 53562.

For more details see our website at: http://wismuf.physic.wisc.edu/cm/
Meet Marguerite
Yes, she is our newest member!

While Prairie Society members were sitting on the ground at the most "civilized" end of Picnic Point, a more punctual member was looking for us farther out on the Point, and spent a quiet hour in private meditations on that beautiful Sunday morning. She's Marguerite Harris, who found us later and continued her acquaintance with Prairie Society, signing our membership book in late May.

She has moved to Madison about seven years ago from Louisville, Kentucky, after a friend who was a political cartoonist suggested that Madison is a "politically active" city. Marguerite was interested in political writing. She is currently employed at Wisconsin State Historical Society, microfilming old newspapers. At the same time she is pursuing a career in fine arts photography, and she has exhibited some of her work outside of Madison.

We can thank John-Brian Paprock for telling her about Prairie Society, after she had visited First Society. Marguerite lives at 6120 Century Avenue in Middleton; her phone number is 831-6180.

Welcome, Marguerite!

Visitor Packet
We would like to create an attractive visitors packet. This would include basic information about Prairie and Unitarian Universalists. It would also have a brief history of Prairie and names and phone numbers of contact people.

Member Packet
This packet would contain a copy of the bylaws and names and phone numbers of Prairie Staff and Board. It would also have expanded information about Prairie and the Unitarian Universalist Association.

Phone Tree
We would like to set up a phone tree to get important information out to everyone quickly.

Caring Circle
Think of this as a seven day a week, twenty four hour a day, Joys and Concerns.

Many Prairie Folk have an extensive support system. New people may not have this. We would like to set up a system that will help us to insure that everyone can get help in a crisis. We would like to insure that if someone gets sick, suffers a tragedy, or is in the hospital, they will have someone to contact for support. We also want to insure that the message gets passed to appropriate people to arrange for visits, cards, phone calls, or other appropriate contacts.

To do this we need to analyze our existing support systems and identify people who would like to help. We will be setting up a Caring Circle table soon to gather information. If you would like to help, please call Arleigh at 273-9811.

Mailing List Update
We have been working on making sure that our mailing list is accurate and up to date. We are trying to delete any names of people who no longer wish to receive the Prairie Fire. We are being extremely cautious to avoid insulting or deleting any one by mistake. Please call Arleigh with any updates or concerns.

Directories
New directories are available at the greeters table at Prairie. We are continuing to insure that the information is up to date.

Entries in the directory include Friends, Members, Inactive Members, Staff and Board, and Organizations. A Friend is a person who is active at Prairie, but has not yet signed the membership book. A Member is a person who has signed the membership book and is currently active. An Inactive Member is a person who has not participated at Prairie for at least two years. Being an active Friend or Member involves participating in Prairie Events or Programs, volunteering to help at Prairie, and/or making an annual pledge.

Directories and the Prairie Fire are free to active members and friends. Inactive folk are asked to make a small contribution to cover the cost of printing and mailing. The Directory is available in four different formats: Large or Small Print; Complete Listing or Active Friends and Members.

If you would like a directory mailed to you, please write to Arleigh at Prairie Society. Please enclose a check for the cost of printing and mailing. The costs are:

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<th>Large Print</th>
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<tr>
<td>Small Print</td>
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<td>$2.05</td>
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Prairie Memories
I have started a book that contains letters and reminiscences from Prairie Friends and Members. I will make it available to the Greeter. Please take a moment to read letters from old friends.

Where are they now?

Cathy Cole is an Associate Professor at the University of Iowa. She is happily remarried. The twins are both in college: Shawn goes to Cornell and Allison to Kalamazoo College.

Elinor and Orie Loucks live in Oxford, Ohio. Their son Ted and his wife Pam outrun China to adopt a baby girl. They are both "over-involved" in the Unitarian church. Orie is working on a new textbook for the Sustainability Project. Elinor swims, volunteers at the Art Museum and hospital, and serves on the library board. In her spare time she belongs to three book-discussion groups.

Scott McElreath was four years old when his parents, Mark and Nancy, moved to Washington DC. He has earned his Masters in Philosophy, is starting work on his PhD, and is getting married in July. Mark and Nancy were the first editors of Prairie Fire, before it had a name.

Karl & Ruth Schwabke Spend five months a year in Florida. They live near Ridgeway five months a year. They are active in the UU fellowship in Lakeland, and sometimes visit the Free Thinkers in Sauk City. They frequently visit family in the Madison area.

Vicki Gavel
Please come back. We miss you!
Religious Education

John-Brian at James Reeb

Our R.E. director will be giving a talk on "The Interfaith Network" at James Reeb on Sunday, June 23.

"Lost" Library Books

If you've borrowed any books from the R.E. Library, please return them. We would like to set-up a card catalog and a method of checking out books.

Child Care Volunteers

The following folk have signed-up to provide child care:

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>6/23</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/30</td>
<td>Mike Sheehy</td>
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<td>7/7</td>
<td>Kathy Converse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/14</td>
<td>Rachel Long</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/21</td>
<td>Need volunteers</td>
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</table>

Please see Erin Bosch to volunteer (241-5089).

Seeking Home Hospitality for Small Societies Conference

Prairie has offered to host the next Small Societies Conference of the North Central Area Council / Central Midwest District. The conference is scheduled for Saturday, October 19 — the same day as the UW-Madison homecoming football game. Since hotel rooms will be hard to come by that weekend, we need to provide home hospitality for perhaps 15-20 people. We'll be requesting volunteers later this year.

Anne Urbanski

Denominational Affairs

Your committee is already at work to insure that, in the coming church year, Prairie will establish or maintain liaison with and involvement in district, area and national U.U. affairs. Look for information in future issues of the Prairie Fire on:

1. The Welcoming Congregation (it's time Prairie became one).
2. Small Societies Conference of NCAC/ CMD on Sat., Oct 19. Prairie is hosting
5. The Chalice Lighter Program.
7. Orientation to U.U. meetings (with help of membership committee).

Other Denominational News:

1. Prairie helped to fund two official delegates (Nancy Graham and Barbara Park) and one alternate (Cinda LaMar) to the General Assembly in Indianapolis on June 19-25.
2. On April 14, more than thirty members remained after the service to vote on the Parish Poll. The resolutions chosen by Prairie members were: 1) Earth, Air, Water, and Fire (protection of the environment), and 2) Working for a Just Economic Community, both of which were also the top choices of the majority of U.U. Societies. Our third choice, Total Ban on Anti-Personnel Landmines, ranked only in fifth place nationally. Consequently, our delegates will vote on our top two choices, plus the national choice of Toxic Threats to Children. See Mar 17 Prairie Fire for list of all resolutions.

3. At the April 28 Parish meeting, the By-law amendment to Article VII A 7, passed unanimously. The change effectively makes the Denominational Affairs Committee responsible for the recommendation and/or selection of those wishing or planning to represent Prairie at denominational meetings and affairs. Those with such an interest should contact the committee. Also, anyone already active or holding an office or position, either past or present, with an area, district, or national group, are asked to let this committee know.

— Nancy Graham, Mary Mulleen, Dick Prest, Rachel Siefried and Pat Watkins (Chair)

Fund Raiser:

Many thanks to Pat Watkins and Pat Cautley for the work and time entailed in arranging the two bus trips in September and October to the Claude Monet exhibit at the Chicago Art Institute. $1484.82 was raised for the Prairie coffers. Excuse the lack of humility, but I thought we deserved a "thank-you", so I thanked us ...

P.W.

News Items

Job Opening:

Second Unitarian Church in Chicago is seeking a music director, choir director and pianist. See notice on bulletin board.

National Public Radio:

... broadcast UUA spot announcements on the top-of-the-hour news for about five weeks in September '95. These were deemed so successful that U.U.A. will repeat them this fall. Wouldn't it be nice for our congregation to have such announcements on our local WPR station? Your denominational Affairs Committee will look into the feasibility of implementing this.

Faith Values Channel:

The UUA also helps to sponsor the Faith Values Channel. It is seen locally on Channel 45, TCI of Wisconsin.

The less self, the better.
The more emptiness, the more to take in.
The more openness, the fresher the air.
Filled with self, we stumble.
However much we own,
Emptiness offers capacity.